

Governor creates committee to review Board of Fisheries

Gov. Steve Cowper has ordered a review of the procedures and structure of the Alaska Board of Fisheries by creating a committee charged with evaluating the board's structure and decision-making process.

"The board is handling a workload far beyond anything that was anticipated," Cowper said. "The committee will look at guidelines for board decisions, staff support, compensation for board members and generally any suggestion that will help make the process work better."

The committee, to be appointed in late September, will include no more than 12 Alaskans with an interest in fisheries issues. Members will be asked to submit a report and recommendations to the governor and Board of Fisheries for possible changes in board procedures.

Nomination for people or suggestions for improvements in the board process are due to the governor's office by Tuesday.

The committee will be asked to evaluate current procedures for allocating fisheries resources in terms of board efficiency, objectivity and equity.

Letters to more than 300 Alaskans, interest groups and those with a stake in fisheries issues have been sent from

the governor's office, notifying them of the review committee.

Applications, suggestions for members or comments on the board process should be submitted to: Sam Stoker, Governor's Office, Pouch A, Juneau 99811.